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Doctor Accuses Hospital In Firing

Wednesday, August 18, 2010 8:58 PM

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COLUMBUS, Ohio — An Ohio doctor said he can no longer practice medicine, and blames the hospital he once worked for because of it.

"I walked into their office and told them if we do not change anything in ICU, that people will die," said Dr. Sunil Nayyar.

Nayyar worked at Mount Carmel West from 2006 to 2009, ONN's Stephanie Mennecke reported on Wednesday.

Nayyar's dream of taking care of patients has since turned into a nightmare.

While working in ICU at Mt. Carmel West, Dr. Nayyar noticed something troubling.

"At night, there were no in-house critical care physicians, and that raised a lot of concerns," Nayyar said.

Nayyar said he brought those concerns to his program director, but nothing was done.

That's when he and 16 other ICU residents decided to take it one step further and signed a petition stating safety is an active issue.

"For six months we did not see any change," Nayyar said. "I continued to bring this topic up and just did not hear a response."

When Nayyar wouldn't let the issue go, he said the hospital let him go instead.

"He was told that if you keep speaking out and keep saying things then we are going to get fired. If you get fired, your career is going to be over," said William W. Patmon III, Nayyar's attorney.

Patmon said that the case is in the United States District Court, and they're ready to take it to a jury.

"It's wrong, his career should not have ended this way," Patmon said. "It's wrong and we are going to take actions and fight as hard as we need to until we get some justice."

ONN contacted Mt. Carmel West Hospital to get their side of the story.

A spokesperson said they could not comment in detail about pending litigation, but said that the allegations are completely without merit.

"Dr. Nayyar was dismissed from his medical residency program following a thorough investigation into a patient care safety issue for which he was responsible," said the spokesperson.

Nayyar said speaking his mind was the only thing that he had done wrong.

"If no one stands up to things like this, people will suffer and ultimately die," Nayyar said.

A spokesperson for Mt. Carmel West also added that their hospital has received national recognition for its quality of care. They said that they are committed to maintaining the highest clinical standards and require their staff to uphold them.

Patmon said, amongst other things, they are seeking loss of wages from the hospital.

They're also requesting Nayyar finish his residency program, and they want the hospital to correct their practices within ICU.

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